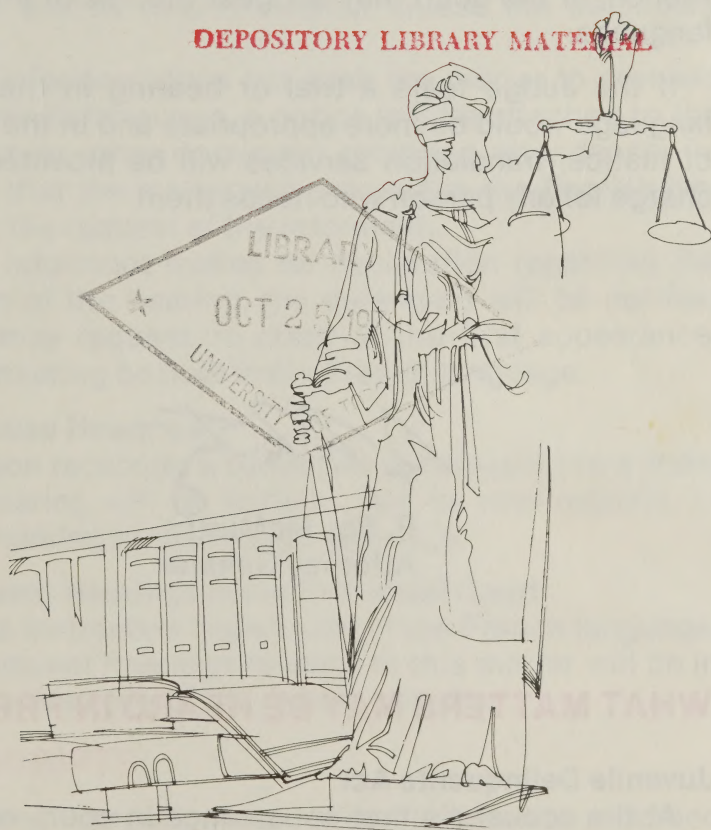


The use of the French language in Ontario Family Courts

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Ministry of the
Attorney
General

The Honourable R. Roy McMurtry,
Attorney General

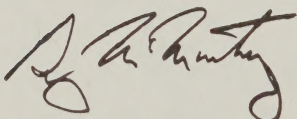
A MESSAGE FROM THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

The Ontario Government, as part of its commitment to provide for the use of the French language in the courts, has introduced French language services in the Provincial Court (Family Division).

This service is provided for persons for whom it is easiest and most comfortable to use French.

Any party to an action before the Provincial Court (Family Division) may request that the matter be heard in French, or the court may suggest the use of the French language.

If the Judge feels a trial or hearing in the English language would be more appropriate and in the interest of justice, translation services will be provided free of charge for any person who needs them.



R. Roy McMurtry,
Attorney General

WHAT MATTERS MAY BE HEARD IN FRENCH?

Juvenile Delinquents Act

At the accused's first appearance in court, either the accused or his or her parents may request a trial in the French language.

Criminal Code of Canada

At the accused's first appearance in court, the accused may request a trial in the French language.

Child Welfare Act or Education Act

(Those matters where a governmental or other agency is one of the parties to the action.)

Any of the parties may apply at the first court hearing to have all subsequent hearings in the French language.

Deserted Wives' and Children's Maintenance Act and Reciprocal Enforcement of Maintenance Orders Act

At the time an information is laid, the wife may request that the matter be heard in the French language. If she so requests then the summons issued will have a notice attached indicating in English and French that the hearings will be held in French unless the defendant objects.

If the informant does not wish the matter to proceed in the French language, a notice will be attached to the summons or other document requiring attendance, indicating that the matter will proceed in the English language at the request of the informant.

If the informant makes no declaration regarding the language of the hearing, the defendant will be notified that he may request, in court at the first appearance, that the hearing be held in the French language.

Show Cause Hearings

A person receiving a summons with respect to a show cause hearing will be notified that he may request, in court, a hearing in the French language.

Subsequent Hearings in the Provincial Court

Once a matter has been heard in the French language, all subsequent hearings relating to this matter will be in French, unless one of the parties objects.

TRANSCRIPTS

All French language trials or hearings will be recorded on tape.

Where the hearing has been held in the French language and a transcript is required, French and English transcripts will be prepared by the Ministry of the Attorney General, at no additional cost to the parties.



**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION PLEASE
CONTACT:**

The Provincial Court (Family Division)
86 Ignatius Street
Sudbury, Ontario
P3C 5G3